

**[Shadrach] Penn, Jr. to Andrew Jackson, July 5, 1827,  
from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by  
John Spencer Bassett.**

**SOLOMON PENN, JR., TO JACKSON.**

Louisville, Ky. , July 5, 1827.

*D'r Sir*, I learn from a source to be relied on, that Mr. Clay has obtained your letter to Carter Beverly (or a copy of it) directed to Wheeling; and that the next Reporter<sup>1</sup> will contain a denial of the truth of the contents of that letter, and an attack upon you over Mr. Clay's signature. I view this as an effort to affect the elections in Kentucky, and it will have considerable effect, unless it be promptly, firmly and temperately met. Clay, I am told, has boasted that he has now got you in a situation, that will constrain you to write in your defence, and that he will thereby effect your destruction. He has evidently two great objects in view—to carry this State according to agreement, and to keep you before the public in a defensive attitude. A statement of the case must, I presume, now be made by you, and it should be moderately and cautiously done; as every statement or allegation, not clearly sustained, will be disproved. I make

<sup>1</sup> The *Kentucky Reporter*, published in Lexington; Clay's letter, etc., appeared in the issue of July 4.

this remark, because Clay and his minions, will go all lengths, even in swearing. But let the public hear from you as early as possible, as it is highly important to your friends in Kentucky that Mr. Clay's statements may be rebutted in time to counteract any erroneous impression they may make, previous to the first Monday in August. Perhaps a brief reiteration of the contents of your letter to C. Beverly would be sufficient, until the

## Library of Congress

testimony can be adduced to support them. Weigh this subject well; for, on the manner in which it may be disposed of, every thing may depend.

I shall make no apology for addressing you thus freely, as you know, my dear sir, the spirit in which these suggestions are made. There will be great exultation for a time, but it will be silenced, I am persuaded, by the voice of truth.

Your Friend